

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) A method of operating a powder paint applicator, comprising:

providing a powder paint color changer ~~assembly having~~ manifold having a hollow body portion with an outlet in fluid communication with the powder paint applicator and a plurality of inlets in respective fluid communication with a plurality of color change assemblies coupled to a like plurality of powder paint sources for selectively supplying a particular powder paint to the powder paint applicator, each color change assembly comprising a color valve having an outlet in fluid communication with an interior cavity of the hollow body portion and an inlet in fluid communication with a source of powder paint, and a purge fitting having a port adapted to be in fluid communication between a source of cleaning fluid and the color valve;

providing a pump in fluid communication with ~~an~~ the outlet of said powder paint color changer manifold and the powder paint applicator; and

selectively enabling a flow of ~~conveying fluid through said pump for providing a suction force through said powder paint color changer assembly for drawing said particular powder paint from one of the plurality of powder paint sources~~ coupled to the selectively enabled color change assembly through the color valve of the enabled

color change assembly, then through said powder paint color changer ~~assembly~~
manifold and into said pump for further conveyance to the powder paint applicator ~~by~~
~~said conveying fluid.~~

18. (currently amended) The method of Claim 17, further comprising
the steps of:

selectively disabling said flow of ~~conveying fluid~~ powder paint through said
pump;

purging said ~~powder paint color changer~~ enabled color change assembly
said color changer manifold, said pump and the powder paint applicator; and

selectively enabling one of the color change assemblies and said flow of
~~conveying fluid~~ powder paint through said pump ~~for providing a suction force through~~
~~said powder paint color changer assembly for drawing a powder paint through said~~
~~powder paint color changer assembly and into said pump~~ for further conveyance of
powder paint from the color changer manifold to the powder paint applicator ~~by said~~
~~conveying fluid.~~

19. (currently amended) The method of Claim 18, wherein said step of purging said ~~powder paint color changer~~ enabled color change assembly, said color changer manifold, said pump and the powder paint applicator, further comprises the steps of:

~~closing a source valve associated with a source of said particular powder~~
~~paint;~~

enabling a flow of cleaning fluid through a purge ~~valve~~ port associated with said ~~source~~ color valve, said cleaning fluid flowing through the purge port into the color valve, said powder paint color changer ~~assembly~~ manifold, said pump and the powder paint applicator;

~~closing an intermediate~~ the color valve associated with said purge ~~valve~~ port;

opening a main cleaning valve associated with said powder paint color changer ~~assembly~~ manifold for enabling a flow of cleaning fluid through[[,]] said powder paint color changer ~~assembly~~ manifold, said pump and the powder paint applicator;

closing said main cleaning valve; and

opening ~~an intermediate~~ a color valve associated with a source of powder paint desired for a subsequent application.